

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A pallet comprising:
 - a plurality of sections, each section having upper, lower and side surfaces; channels formed through at least one of the side surfaces of each section and extending into the section;
 - said channels of a first one of said channels being adapted to be aligned with at least one channel of a second one of said sections; [[and]]
 - a plurality of elongated connectors dimensioned to fit closely in said channels, each of the connectors extending between and being releasably affixed to a channel of said first section and a channel of said second section; and
 - a plurality of spaced apertures being provided through each of said channels and substantially similarly spaced apertures being provided through each of said connectors whereby the dimensions of the said pallet are adjustable.
2. (Original) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein said channels of said first and second sections have substantially the same cross-sectional dimensions.
3. (Original) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein said sections and said connectors are secured together by means of mechanical fasteners.
4. (Original) A pallet according to claim 3, wherein said mechanical fasteners comprise rivets, bolts or self-tapping screws.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein said channels and said connectors are all substantially rectangular in cross section.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/710,917
Page 3 of 9

7. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a material handling pallet of preselected dimensions comprising:
 - providing a plurality of sections, each section having upper, lower and side surfaces and having channels formed through at least one of the side surfaces of each section and extending into the section;
 - positioning said sections a preselected distance from each other;
 - aligning a channel of a first section with a channel of a second one of said sections;
 - positioning an elongated connector that is dimensioned to fit closely in said channels, so that the connector extends between the channel of said first section and the aligned channel of said second section, a plurality of spaced apertures being provided through each of said channels and substantially similarly spaced apertures being provided through each of said connectors whereby the dimensions of the said pallet are adjustable; and
 - inserting a mechanical fastener through a selected one of the apertures of said channels of said first section, and a selected one of the apertures of said elongated connector and inserting a second mechanical fastener through a selected one of the apertures of said channels of said second section, and another selected one of the apertures of said elongated connector thereby fastening said elongated connector to each of said sections.
8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said channels of said first and second sections have substantially the same cross-sectional dimensions.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein said mechanical fasteners comprise rivets, bolts or self-tapping screws.
11. (Canceled)

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/710,917
Page 4 of 9

12. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said channels and said connectors are all rectangular in cross section.
13. (Currently Amended) A pallet, comprising:
 - a plurality of sections, each section being formed of a single molded polymeric piece having upper, lower and side surfaces;
 - channels formed through at least one of the side surfaces of each section and extending into the section;
 - said channels being adapted to be aligned with at least one channel of a second one of said sections;
 - a plurality of integral supporting legs extending downwardly from the lower surfaces;
 - the upper surfaces being formed by a lattice-like lattice structure of integrally molded intersecting members having an inverted U-shaped cross-section, said channels being formed in said intersecting members; and
 - a plurality of elongated connectors dimensioned to fit closely in said channels of a first one of said sections, each of the connectors extending between a channel of said first section one of said sections and a channel of said second section.
14. (Original) A pallet according to claim 13, wherein said first and second sections are substantially identical to each other.
15. (Original) A pallet according to claim 13, wherein said sections and said connectors are secured together by means of mechanical fasteners.
16. (Original) A pallet according to claim 13, wherein a plurality of spaced apertures are provided through each of said channels and substantially similarly spaced apertures are provided through each of said connectors whereby the dimensions of the said pallet are adjustable.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/710,917
Page 5 of 9

17. (Currently Amended) A plurality of pallets, each comprising:
 - a body formed of a grid having upper, lower and side surfaces;
 - a plurality of legs extending from said lower surfaces arranged in a staggered pattern[,]] ; and
 - a plurality of openings through said grid arranged in a staggered pattern complementary to the pattern of said legs and sized to receive said legs, such that two of said pallets can be placed in inverted orientation with the legs of each pallet facing the other pallet and the two pallets will nest together with each leg of each of said pallets being received in an opening, whereby the thickness of the nested pair of pallets is no thicker than that of a single one of the pallets.
18. (Original) A pallet according to claim 6, wherein said channels are provided with internal ribs, at least one of said ribs being positioned to limit the distance of insertion of a connector into said channel.
19. (Original) A pallet according to claim 6, wherein said connectors are provided with at least one area having an indented cross section and a channel adapted to receive said connector is provided with a rib extending a limited distance from an upper internal surface of said channel, said rib being adapted to engage said area of indented cross section.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/710,917
Page 6 of 9